The Prydonian RENEGADE

Vol. V, No. 5 August, 1988 The Newsletter of Prydonians of Prynceton

NJN Celebrates 25 Years of *Doctor Who*

New Jersey Network is making plans with local fan clubs to celebrate the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of *Doctor Who* this November with a series of special events no Whovian will want to miss. Saturday, November 19, will see the world premiere of Eric Luskin's new special, "The Making of *Doctor Who*" taped in England in June, at a special party to be held at the Newark Airport Marriott Hotel with invited guests Sylvester McCoy and Sophie Aldred. That evening, Sylvester and Sophie will host a live, on-air fundraiser from NJN's Newark studios, the network's first live fundraiser in over a year and a half. "The Making of *Doctor Who*" will be shown again on NJN that evening, along with other Doctor Who-oriented broadcasts lasting from early evening into the night.

The celebration party at the Marriott will run all day long and will feature panels and autograph sessions with Sylvester and Sophie, in addition to the premiere of "The Making of *Doctor Who*." According to Donna Huron, Assistant Director of Development for Membership at NJN, tickets for the party, which will cost $15, will be offered first to current NJN members in early September. Seating will be limited to no more than about 500 attendees. She adds that if you're not already a member, you might want to join or renew now so as to get tickets in advance. After that, tickets will go on sale to the general public. The ticket price will include lunch, served by the hotel.

In addition to these events, NJN and three local fan clubs, the Prydonians, the Unearthly Children and the Jersey Jagaroth, are working together on a raffle to raise money for NJN. The Grand Prize is expected to be a trip for two to London. Second Prize will be brunch on Sunday, November 20, with Sylvester McCoy. Tickets will be available from the clubs. More informations on this in future newsletters.

As of now, all these plans are more than tentative but not yet completely firmed up. Sylvester McCoy and Sophie Aldred haven't signed final contracts to appear, although they have made verbal commitments to do so. Their appearances are, of course, subject to professional opportunities that may arise between now and November 19. The three clubs are working together to organize and plan these events and will be providing volunteers at both the party and the fundraiser. We hope to have more detailed information available by next month's newsletter.

GAMBIT UPDATE

GAMBIT, the newest bright star in the *Blakes 7* universe, is progressing nicely. With over 250 memberships sold already (some from as far away as Sweden and Canada), if you haven't sent in yours, I advise you to do so soon. A number of good conventions this year sold out surprisingly early. If getting enough together to contribute to the guest fund is delaying you, send that later (as soon as you can), but get your membership in without delay.

The committee has heard from all guests except Gareth Thomas, who is traveling and therefore unreachable. All have given an affirmative answer, barring work committments. Those confirmed so far are Paul Darrow, Janet Lees Price, Michael Keating, Sheelagh Wells, David Jackson and Terry Nation. Jacqueline Pearce, mentioned last month as confirmed, is still really only in the discussion stage.

The Con-Committee is going to have a banner contest, with all entrants displayed in the con-suite, which will be manned, as at DSV-ONE, with volunteers from the three local clubs. The Prydonian High Council has decided to hold a separate club contest for a new club banner, one more expressive of our involvement in both *Doctor Who* and *Blakes 7* fandoms. The winner will not only have their banner adopted as the new club banner but will also be entered as our club's entrant in the convention contest. Look for rules for both contests in next month's *Renegade*. Start thinking about it, either for your own or the club's entry. There may be some sort of prize for the best convention banner, also.

The Con-Committee is also thinking about costume judging. There will not be a costume contest, so, to encourage all attendees to come in costume for the whole weekend, there will be judges who will circulate all weekend and simply come up to you and hand you a ribbon or some sort of acknowledgement that your costume is really good. There will be a Best-in-Show announced at the Closing Ceremonies, but, this way, everyone will stand a chance of being acknowledged for all the hard work that they put into their costume.

There will also be one hour of fan-club panels each morning in the ballroom. These will be set up and run by the NY, NJ and PA clubs, as a show of appreciation for their involvement in and support of the convention. Start thinking up ideas to fill those hours. The committee is also looking for good fan produced videos for possible showing in the video room. So get to it, this is your chance to get involved and be heard.

Progress reports will be going out sometime after SCORPIO VI. Included will be ballots for favorite videos and requests for panel ideas (both pro and fan). Further mention and clarification of all of the above will also be in the progress reports. Keep thinking and working because GAMBIT is really looking for fan input.

Editorially Yours

In May, when I volunteered to take up the reins of the newsletter's publication, I did so with some trepidation. Two months later, I am beginning to relax and enjoy it. True, between the newsletter, attending conventions and the fanzine library, free time is at a premium, but I am meeting so many more of you by way of your letters and contributions, it's worth it.

I am trying for a balance of Doctor *Who* and *Blakes 7*. Only your continued support and contributions will make that happen.

WHYY Needs You!

August is again Pledge Month for Channel 12. Not all of you can volunteer to man the phone on our Saturdays, but each of you can show your support of Channel 12's *Doctor Who* and *Blakes7* programming by calling or sending in a contribution. However large or small, let them hear from you. And ask the person taking your pledge to note that you are contributing because of their support of our favorite two programs. Channel 12 has shown their ongoing support of *Doctor Who*. Now, we must show them that we also expect their airing of *Blakes* 7 to be onging as well.

WHYY bought *Blakes* 7 for three showings of the series only. That means that we may lose it after this, the third, round if we do not let them know we look forward to its continuing. Let them hear from you. You might also drop a hint that we would appreciate its being aired at a more decent hour; it has a large enough following to warrrant it.

THANK YOU CONTRIBUTORS, Tom Beck, Cathy Boudreau, Ed Chambers, Thomas Connell, Deborah Lee-Spollen, Janet Darrow, Jeff Hildebrand, Duffy McLaughlin, Michelle London, Kim Wigmore.

Letters to the Renegade

Roger Carey Management
64 Thornton Avenue
London W41QQ
England
July 14, 1988

Dear Prydonians:

Thank you for our newsletters which came today. I thought I should let you know that Paul's agent Roger Carey has now moved to the above address so mail should be sent there or to Ann Bown who runs his fan club. Her address is 37A Byfleet Avenue, Old Basing, Basingskoke, Hampshire RG24OHR, England.

"Are You Lonesome Tonight" is tremendously successful. Paul is in Cardiff this week where the entire audience gave them a standing ovation on Tuesday night. A great thing for the cast. Of course, old Paul now reckons he knows what it's like to be a Pop Star! The part is emotionally draining and physically exhausting, but the feedback from the audience plus the fact that he loves playing "Elvis" makes it all worthwhile.

Paul has been delighted to see friendly American faces at every venue he has played and is touched by the fact that so many have come over to see the show. I heard from "Space City" that many Americans are coming over to see the show in Croydon and then attending the convention the following weekend, which is great.

I've just produced "The Wizard of Oz" with a hundred and eight-five children (I must be mad!). It was such a success, we've been asked to do a charity performance for the famous Great Ormund Street Childrens Hospital Appeal Fund at the professional theatre in Guildford. The children are terribly excited. We'd had lots of tears on the closing night so this was a wonderful surprise, and nice too, that our healthy children can do something for those less fortunate. Paul sadly, couldn't see it, but did arrive home in time for our 22nd anniversary and we had a good celebration before he drove off again to the next venue.

It is all systems go with his book "Avon, A Terrible Aspect." It will contain photographs after all, and I imagine will be available at the end of the year or the beginning of 1989. I now have over thirty letters from America to answer, so I must get on with them before tomorrow brings another pile.

With best wishes to you all.
Janet Darrow

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The High Council: Tom Beck, 216 Witherspoon Street, Princeton, NJ 08540, 609-921-8148. Cathy Boudreau, 412 Columbus Avenue, Tuckahoe, NY 10707, 914-337-1621. Linda Anne Lineaweaver, 4D8 Arbor Green, Beverly, NJ 08010, 609-877-3464. Maureen Mulholland, 1203 Noreen Drive, Burlington Township, NJ 08016.

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For Your Information

FUNDRAISER IN AUGUST

August is fundraising time for WHYY, Channel 12. We have been invited, alongwith the Unearthly Children and the Cygnus Alphans to volunteer our services manning the phones on Saturdays, August 13 and 20, from approximately 2:30-6:00 PM. To work one or both days, call Barbara Teichert at 215-688-5638. After August 13, call Tom Beck at 609-921-8148.

Let's show our support for PBS and especially 12 for giving us *Blakes7* and *Doctor Who*. If you can't volunteer to work either of these days, remember to call in and make a pledge. Don't forget to mention how much you appreciate their showing our favorite programs.

MEMBERS TO WED

Members, Duffy MCLaughlin and Michael Alibrando will be married on August 27 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Berlin, NJ. Duffy and Michael met at the Doctor Who convention in New Brunswick on May 24, 1986. They participated together in several *Doctor Who* events before becoming engaged last spring. Both expect to continue their participation in club events after the wedding. They will be residing at 244 Parkway Avenue, Trenton, NJ.

CONGRATULATIONS, Duffy and Michael! Live Long and Prosper.

KUDOS TO JEFF

Congratulations to Prydonian Jeff Hildebrand of Penn Wynne, PA, for being named a 1988 Presidential Scholar, one of only 3 from Pennsylvania and 141 from the entire country. This is the most prestigious academic award for high school seniors in the United States. Good Luck to Jeff as he prepares to enter Swarthmore College this fall.

DOCTOR WHO SILVER ANNIVERSARY CRUISE

Doctor Who will sail into its 25th year with a Silver Anniversary Cruise on the SS Galileo this November. Leaving Miami on November 20, the ship will touch land at Key West and Cozumel Island and Cancun, Mexico before returning on the 25th. The current guest list includes Colin Baker (DW #6), Janet Fielding (Tegan), Sarah Sutton (Nyssa), Frazier Hines (Jamie), John-Nathan Turner (Producer) and Gary Downey (Production Manager and Choreographer and author of the Doctor Who Cookbook). More guests could be included, depending on fan response.

In hopes of creating a relaxed and informal atmosphere, organizers are limiting tickets to 100. Planned poolside discussion groups, treks ashore and the guests rotating to different tables of fans each day should all add up to a memorable time for all.

Two services, a roommate matching service and a no-penalty 3 payment plan for those fans on a shoestring budget, may make it easier for some to say "Yes" (or harder to say "No") to what appears to be the *Doctor Who* fan event of the year. Prices range from $465 (4 in a room) to $634 (2 in a room). For general information send a SASE to: *Doctor Who* Silver Anniversary Cruise, 1632 Van Buren Street #2, Hollywood, FL 33020, (305)-921-2910. For booking and payment information only, contact: Alpha Travel, Inc., Attn. *Doctor Who*, 9276 Bird Road, Miami, FL 33165, (305)- 553-1112. With only 100 berths available, its important to get those deposits (just remember, it's non-refundable) in fast to guarantee your reservation.

ANGLOFANS UNITE!

ANGLOFANS UNLIMITED is a *Blake's 7/Doctor Who*/British media club formed in February, 1987 and dedicated to spreading the word about all the wonderful British programs we enjoy so much. For further information, write to: ANGLOFANS UNLIMITED, P.O. Box 23192, Rochester, NY 14692. A SASE would probably be appreciated.

PEN PALS--YES

So far, six members have joined our new Club Pen Pal Service. This month, we are printing a letter from one of them telling how much she is enjoying her pen pal. A seventh member is awaiting a match. If you are interested, send us your name, age, interests (*Doctor Who*, *Blakes* 7, both and possibly other fandoms as well) and any other information about yourself you wish to include. We'll try to match you up with a similar soul. After that, it's up to you. Please put the words "Pen Pals" somewhere on the outside of the envelope. Please enclose a SASE.

An additional thought for your consideration is the idea that all sumitted information could be sent to all potential pen pals and you can each chose one or more, as you wish. Feedback anyone?

STORY CONTEST--MAYBE

As of now, we've received only one entry to our 1988 *Doctor Who* Story Contest. If we don't receive any more by the August 27 deadline, that one entry will win by default. There is still plenty of time to enter.

Here again are the rules: each story must be on some aspect of the Doctor Whoniverse, no longer that 2000 words, typed, an original story (never-before published or under consideration anywhere) and accompanied by a $1 entry fee. You can enter as many stories as you like. All submissions become the property of the club. Please put your name on every page and be sure to keep a copy of each story you submit for your records.

CHANGING YOUR ADDRESS

Please give us as much notice as you can of an address change. You don't want to miss your Renegade, and we don't want you to miss it either. Let us know, especially if you're coming home from or returning to college, as college mail rooms are notoriously bad about forwarding things. Send all changes of address to our PO Box amd mark "Change of Address" on the envelope.

ON A DUES INCREASE

Last month a dues increase was put forth in the editorial column. The High Council thought it should be reiterated in the main text of the newsletter (for those of you who don't read the editorial). Response so far has been very supportive. As adopted by the High Council and given to the membership for discussion, the proposed new dues structure, to take affect November 1, 1988, is: individual ($8), family ($9) and student/senior ($6). We have set aside these three months for your discussion.

Pro and Con letters are being sol-. icited and will be printed in the letters column for the next three months. Response so far has been favorable. Let us hear from you, on this or any aspect of the club or newsletter.

More Letters:

continued from page 2

Dear Prydonians,

I have always enjoyed being in this fine *Dr Who/Blakes7* club. The change in editors has done the club no harm. Things continue to run smoothly.

Whenever the club has run into a financial crisis, the members seem willing to help. I know I have done my part. And since this club has always done its best to keep on top of the most current news I heartily agree on a dues increase. Enclosed is my check for $8 for an individual membership renewal to show my support of an increase.

I have been in another *Dr. Who* club in the past and never did I enjoy the membership as much as I do the membership I have with the Prydonians. I will not name the other club, but I hope they can learn a lesson from this club. Members can always feel welcome to submit anything they want to the newsletter (within reason, of course). The members here should always keep in mind the welcome feeling the High Council displays at all times.

There is room for growth of course. Not only in the number of members, but also in the services that might be provided in the future. However, anything else you are looking for in this club has to start somewhere. So if you have any ideas which could expand the clubs services, they must be heard to be acted upon. So send in those ideas in letter form to the editor and High Council and get those ideas circulating. But expect to help out where you can because these extra services can't come free. I have my ideas, but am keeping them to myself for now until I have more spare time to further commit myself to the club.

Here's hoping to a wonderful future for the Prydonians of Prynceton! Cheers!

Ed Chambers

To the Editor:

Greetings! I am a member of the Prydonians. You may have seen me wandering around the meetings; I'm the one who's been wearing the Swarthmore sweatshirt the past few months. I have enjoyed reading your efforts on the last couple of issues of the *Renegade*.

Your request for member contributions sounded a familiar note from when I too was an editor of a *Doctor Who* fan club newsletter. Therefore, you will find several articles enclosed. On the matter of the dues increase, sigh, yes, it is probably time for that. I would rather pay a little more than have the club cut back on the newsletter or activities.

Jeff Hildebrand

Dear Prydonians,

I have been meaning to write to you for some time now to tell you how pleased I am with my new Pen Pal. Stacey is a great matchup and we have been exchanging letters for a few months now. I find her a delightful and talented person and I enjoy her letters. We have become fast friends. So, thank you for introducing me to a new friend.

Deborah Lee-Spollen

To the Editor;

I am not much of a letter writer and usually have difficulty sitting down to write my Pen Pals. Here is my contribution to the newsletter.

I liked your first two issues of the newsletter. Tom can ber proud of the person who took over his old post. I think you are doing a great job. I also like the editorials, you are an honest and frank person.

In regards to the dues being raised, I'm all for it. What's two dollars more a year to receive such a fantastic and informative newsletter. Plus, it would help to keep the club in the black.

Well, so much for my yearly contribution (only kidding--I think). I'll be waiting patiently next to my mailbox for the next issue.

Michelle A. London

F L A N I R A T A K N I N O C	SUSAN
O B M J A P C B U U S N D D I	IAN
T U R L Q G C K A R A N E Z R	BARBARA
J R K I X L E E L S N W L I D	VICKI
C E V N G Y C A U T I F U J A	STEVEN
A E T X I A O S P E S O D A B	KATARINA
H D O D E N D V R V S D M M F	DODO
C A N Z P R E I I E A O S E U	BEN
P E R M E G P K E M X D Z T S	POLLY
E E L E E L G Y A R E R A B A	JAMIE
R O M A N M V I C P O L L A R	VICTORIA
I R W Q A W O L R U T I E N A	ZOE
D O L V I C K I L B E I M A J	(the) BRIGADIER
Z M L X C A C Z X O A Z Q M A	(sgt.) BENTON
P L O T A K A A A B E N T O N	LIZ
A J E R Y T C L C E M T U R E	JO
I X N Y. R W B E S F E Z R I C	SARA JANE
R J A L E O D E S K A S S Y N	HARRY
O E J L P O L L Y N D C A L L	LEELA
T E G L F A C O N I H A R R I	K-NINE
C E N A R R A S K G A C S C R	ROMANA
I D G Y N T Q Z U N R T A O R	ADRIC
V O A E E M S O I P E R H O E	NYSSA
E T U G L O L N U V R D M Z P	TEGAN
N E A E I R D N E I Y A O Y O	TURLOUGH
N N B A U R L N E X N O O N L	PERI
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?¿?¿?THE COMPANIONS PUZZLE by Tom "THE MADMAN" Connell?¿?¿?

Declining Doctor? Another View

by Jeff Hildebrand

After reading Chris Rywalt's article in the July *Renegade*, I wish to offer an opposing point of view. I enjoyed the last season of *Doctor Who*, and I think the author may have been looking in the wrong direction in laying the blame.

First of all, I strongly disagree with a comment he made about Slyvester McCoy's performance. He says, "McCoy's buffoonery approach... is deadly to the Doctor." If that is the case, why was Patrick Troughton's Doctor so popular; his Doctor was in many ways more of abuffoon than McCoy's, but the show certainly survived him.

Then onto his comments about the stories. I found, like many others, "Time and the Rani" to be deadly boring. Episodes 2 & 3 consisted of the Doctor's escape from and being captured by the Rani several times with little purpose except padding the story to its right length; that's hardly original, and most fans are quite bored with it by now. The last episode was passible if you could accept the scientific mistake in "an asteroid made completely of Strange Matter;" in reality it would blow itself apart.

I do agree with Mr. Rywalt on one point; I also disliked "Paradise Towers," mainly because the script read like a farce, but the timing seemed to be geared towards a thriller. In contrast, I thought "Delta and the Bannermen" worked well because the story was an obvious satire that was kept from getting out of hand; some of the characters were certainly rather flaky, but they were reasonably so, certainly not to the extent of some of the characters in "Paradise Towers." It is a pity that Mr. Rywalt seems not to have seen "Dragonfire," because, guessing from his comments, I think it would have been more to his liking.

A comment he made, however, has caused me to realize why there are some unhappy fans around. He says, "who can ever forget, 'cognito ergo schlum'?" Well, despite the fact that I have seen all Tom Baker's episodes several times, I haven't the slightest idea where that quote comes from. I dismissed this thinking, "Different people remember different things," but I quickly realized that this correlates into the fact that different people are looking for different things in the show. Here is where the problem lies. For many years, *Doctor Who* struck a balance between drama, humor, and horror. Due to orders by the BBC management, the balance has been changed, horror has been toned way down, and replaced by humor.

For the future, I think a couple of steps should be taken. I find it hard to believe that anyone could claim that *Doctor Who* was overly violent when it was airing opposite the *A Team*, some of the worst violent garbage to come out of Hollywood, but a few did. The BBC should not have backed down; it should have ignored those, such as Mary Whitehouse, who seem to have a vendetta against the show. Now that the show has returned, probably permanently, to prime time, I think we don't have to worry giving two year olds nightmares. Also, 14 episodes is just too short a season! As I said, *Doctor Who* is a show of many facets, and I think at least twenty episodes or so (5 stories) are needed to exploit this. Even better would be a return to 26 episodes.

The current season is still very much a mystery. In season 23, JNT and Co. went for spectacular and got in over their heads. Last season, they had to deal with introducing a Doctor and a companion in a short period of time. Hopefully, this season they are concentrating on turning out episodes that are solid, episodes which have been well thought out in scripting, producing, and acting. The potential is there. The Daleks can be quite menacing, but they don't work well in comedy. In the second story, we will have a comic (but understandably so) backdrop; if the author manages to produce the feeling that there is something sinister behind it (which is, of course, eventually revealed), this one could be a winner. And if the speculation about the scenario of "The Happiness Patrol" is correct, namely, a tyrannical government suppressing allpleasure, it would seem likely that this could be a show which once again establishes that special balance. Time, as always, will tell.

Kim's Cutouts

by Kim Wigmore

DATES AT A GLANCE

AUGUST 5-7: SCORPIO VI, Chicago, Il
AUGUST 12-14: TARDISCON, St. Louis, MO
NO AUGUST ASSEMBLY
AUGUST 27-28: Creation Con, Penta Hotel, NY,
Confirmed Guests: Leonard Nimoy and Jonathan Frakes
SEPTEMBER 10: SEPTEMBER ASSEMBLY
SEPTEMBER 17-18: Creation Con, Quality Inn, Newark, NJ,
Invited guest: James Doohan
OCTOBER 1: OCTOBER ASSEMBLY
OCTOBER 8-9: Creation Con, Penta Hotel, NY
NOVEMBER 5: NOVEMBER ASSEMBLY
NOVEMBER 11-13: SPECTRUM (multi-media), Baltimore, MD
NOVEMBER 19: NJN Celebration of 25 Years of *Doctor Who*, Newark Airport Marriott Hotel
Invited Guests; Sylvester McCoy and Sophie Aldred
NOVEMBER 20-25: *Doctor Who* Silver Anniversary Cruise, SS Galileo,
Miami, Key West, Cozumel and Cancun
NOVEMBER 25-27: Creation Con, Penta Hotel, NY

FEBRUARY 10-12, 1989: GAMBIT, Newark, NJ
APRIL 28-30, 1989: FREEDOM CITY, Towson, MD
SEPTEMBER 21-23, 1989: NORTH AMERICAN TIME FESTIVAL, Columbus, Ohio
Invited Guest: Anthony Ainley

Prydonians of Prynceton

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TRENTON, NJ AUG 6 1988 PM 080

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Audubon, NJ 08106

Warning! If your address label is printed

in *green*, your membership expires at the end of next month.

If your address label is printed in *red*,

your membership expires with this issue.

This will be your last issue of the *Renegade*

unless you renew your dues by the end of the month.

Dated Material--Please Rush!